



Know It!

an e-news service for our partners from the Howard County Tourism Team

The New HOWARD LIFE Visitors Guide is here!

The Official Visitors and Residents Guide of Howard County Tourism is often a visitor's first look at all there is to see and do in the county. It is distributed at Howard County's Welcome Center in Historic Ellicott City, at all Maryland State Welcome Centers, 23 County Visitors Centers, and in the rooms and concierge desks at county and BWI Airport district hotels. If you want more copies, just call the Tourism office at 410-313-1900 and we'll get them right out to you.



Inside you will find a wealth of information on all there is to see and do in Howard County: from 50 Free Things To Do and Artist Profiles, to Walking Tours of Columbia and Ellicott City, this is a great way to show how much Howard County has to offer visitors and residents.

You can also view Howard Life on our website! Click [here](#) or just visit the Tourism home page: www.VisitHowardCounty.com

RUN, BIKE, PLAY, LIVE PINK at the Howard LIFE Festival!

Spring is just around the corner and now's the time to renew your commitment to health & fitness. You can start by registering today for one of the six different fitness events to be featured at Tricolumbia's NEW Howard LIFE Festival to be held in downtown Columbia on SUNDAY, APRIL 26, 2009.

This newest endeavor from Robert Vigorito and the folks at Columbia Triathlon Association is being presented as part of Howard County Tourism's Blossoms of Hope CHERRYBRATION DAYS celebration and will benefit both Blossoms of Hope and the Ulman Cancer Fund. Click [here](#)



Connecting With Our Partners

Enjoy an evening networking with partners and colleagues as we are treated to a Backstage Tour of Rep Stage at the HCC Horowitz Center

Wednesday, March 18

5 - 7 pm

Visit the new Smith Theatre and find out how the magic happens backstage!

Registration required: Reply to register@visithowardcounty.com

SOIREE! Tourism's Annual Fundraiser

Tuesday, June 2, 2009

Enjoy an evening of fabulous dining, while bidding to win exciting travel packages - and cheer as you watch our Dazzling Dancing Stars! In the beautiful tented gardens at Belmont Conference Center.

This is sure to be a sell out again this year!

Tickets are now on sale:

Go to the [Soiree](#) page on the Tourism website.

Contact Amanda Hof for information: Amanda@visithowardcounty.com
410-313-1904

FRIDAY THE 13TH: GHOSTS NIGHT OUT!

If you dare, join our Ghost Guides of the Macabre for our haunted history ghost tours on a night when most people wouldn't dare.

Friday, February 13th, and Friday March 13th.

Multiple tours will be available but you are

for more information and to register.

HALF-MARATHON RACE DAY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Looking for a great teambuilding activity for your business or organization? We need volunteer teams to staff water stations for Tricolumbia's Blossoms of Hope Half Marathon on Sunday, April 26, 2009.

Show your organization's team spirit and zest for life by adopting a water stop station.

CREATIVITY WELCOME! All groups will receive free t-shirts and a sponsor sign. Call 410-313-1900 for more information.

Welcome to Our Newest Partners

Allcare of Maryland: Our newest Capital Partner offering affordable walk-in medical care and acute care health services, as well as cosmetic services; in Columbia and Ellicott City.

www.allcareofmd.com

Arthur Murray Dance Center: Training our Soiree dancers! www.arthurmurray-md.com

The Wine Bin: Helping customers discover outstanding and affordable wines.

New Restaurants: who are also joining in Restaurant Weeks promotion:

Columbia

[Donna's Café](#)

[Café de Paris](#)

[Copeland's of New Orleans](#)

Glenelg

[Bistro Blanc](#)

Elkridge

[Stained Glass Pub](#)

Travel Forecast: Americans Still Value Travel
Despite a bleak economy, many Americans still plan to see the world this year.

In a survey by CheapTickets.com and SmartMoney.com, people ranked travel second only to dining out as the leisure activity they are trying to afford. While two-thirds of those surveyed say they will lower their travel expenses, they're more likely to cut back on other areas first, including cars, clothes, electronics and gadgets.

The biggest trend? Travelers are going active and green. They plan to be environmentally conscious, and engage in more outdoor activities, according to TripAdvisor, a marketing firm that measures the latest trends in travel. For lots of outdoor - and free - activities be sure to visit the [Ecotourism](#) link on the Tourism website!



encouraged to book early. Don't miss the chance to press your luck!

Click [here](#) to book your reservation or for more information.

Tourism partners have a special opportunity to reach the many Ghost Tour visitors who come to Howard County. We will include any marketing items you want to include in a packet offered to tour guests, such as coupons. Please let us know if you want to include something. Our tour season officially runs from April 3 - November 28.

Maryland Minute is a weekly radio segment in which Margot Amelia, Executive Director of Maryland Office of Tourism, highlights several of the many fun things to see and do in Maryland. The segment is broadcast on a partnership of radio stations in Baltimore's CBS network and Washington, DC's Clear Channel network. Her January Minute focused on the pivotal role of Maryland in the nation's history of railroading - and mentioned Historic Ellicott City's B&O Railroad Station, the oldest surviving station in the U.S.

OUR ADDRESS HAS CHANGED:

Howard County Tourism & Promotion

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Ellicott City, Maryland 21043
www.VisitHowardCounty.com
410-313-1900
team@visithowardcounty.com

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